

socio-economic class, every child can learn and can succeed, given dedicated teachers, able and supportive administrators, and a manageable class-size that affords teachers the opportunity to devote more time to diagnose each student's individual learning needs and problems and, thereby, enable them to teach each child accordingly.

I believe strongly in solid classroom management . . . if the class is not under control, the teacher cannot teach," was her honest answer when asked recently about her secret of success.

Above all, however, I am particularly pleased that Ms. Stinson seized the challenge of putting an inner-city school in my district in the highest ranking of achievement in the Miami-Dade County Public Schools, the fourth largest school system in the nation. While teaching and learning continue within the halls of Lillie C. Evans Elementary School under the auspices of its dedicated and highly motivated faculty, Ms. Stinson has reached out to the community by ensuring that the parents are also schooled in the basic skills of reading, math and the sciences through regular sessions at night. Simply put, Ms. Stinson has literally bridged the gap between her school and her students' homes, making parental involvement an essential part of the teaching and learning process.

In spite of the odds, Ms. Stinson has truly demonstrated to all those called upon by public service that excellence and achievement are never beyond the reach of those willing to make the sacrifice and dare the impossible on behalf of tomorrow's leaders. This recognition truly honors her leadership and defines the nobility of her profession as an educator. I extend to her my heartfelt gratitude for a job superbly done and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

#### RECOGNIZING BRETT AGEE FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 6, 2005*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brett Agee of Liberty, Missouri, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 376, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brett has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the years that Brett has been involved with scouting, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as Assistant Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader on two occasions, Librarian, Quartermaster, Chaplain Aide, Senior Patrol Leader, Troop Guide, and Instructor. Brett has earned 31 merit badges, the 12 Month Camper Award, the 100 Nights Camper Award, and the religious award: Ad Altare Dei. Brett is an Ordeal Member of the Order of the Arrow and a Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. His Tribal Name is Swift White Tail Buck Standing in Clover.

For his Eagle Scout project, Brett led a group of Boy Scouts that built room dividers for use at the Earnest Shepherd Youth Center in Liberty.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in commending Brett Agee for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### HONORING KYLER PAUL MARES

#### HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 6, 2005*

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the memory of Kyler Paul Mares. He was born on December 27, 1995 to Greg and Verna Mares of Brush, Colorado.

The Mares had three children before Kyler was born: Jessica in 1989, Krista in 1991, and Gregory in 1994. Later, his parents would come to realize that Kyler was truly, "Heaven's Very Special Child."

Soon after Kyler's birth, his parents were told he needed to be tested to determine if his small head size was normal. It was determined to be abnormal and after more tests it was evident that Kyler had Cerebral Palsy.

As Kyler got older and bigger his parents were told he had an extreme case of Cerebral Palsy. It was difficult for his family as they came to realize that he would never communicate or be able to walk like a normal child. As he grew, they saw him endure many needles, many surgeries, and multiple broken bones.

But through all of this pain, Kyler was a happy baby; he never fussed and gave big smiles to his mommy, daddy, sisters and brothers.

Kyler's parents surrounded him with love and care and rose to the enormous challenges of raising a child with severe disabilities, and three other children.

His parents both worked full time to make ends meet and to provide health insurance for their family. His mother worked nights because they had no one to care for Kyler during the day. His parents never chose to put him in an institution even though it would have been much easier on them financially.

On the evening of September 1, 2004 Kyler's precious life ended. He was loved and adored by his family and they were told after his death and autopsy he should have only lived one day, instead he lived 8 and a half years.

They cherish those years and know that Kyler enriched their lives in so many ways. In God's infinite wisdom, he chose this special child for the Mares family.

They would be the first to say that they would not trade the experience for anything and they cherish every moment they had with Kyler. He was blessed to be born into this family and they were blessed to have him for 8½ years.

Sometimes things in life would not be chosen by us, but God who always knows best gives us a beautiful gift that would have been passed over. Kyler Paul Mares was a beautiful gift from God and he will forever live in the hearts of his family and friends.

We remember Kyler today and acknowledge that all children are precious and that scripture reveals to us that Jesus said, "If you've done it to the least of these, you've done it unto me."

Kyler was truly one of "the least of these." He will never be forgotten.

#### RECOGNIZING PATRICK NOVAK FOR BEING HONORED WITH THE CONGRESSIONAL AWARD GOLD MEDAL

#### HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 6, 2005*

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Patrick Novak of Carbondale, Illinois, for receiving the Congressional Gold Medal.

The Congressional Award Program, established in 1979, recognizes initiative, achievement and service in young people. It began as a bipartisan effort in both the United States Senate and the House of Representatives. The program recognizes community service, achievement, and personal development. The Award builds confidence and self-esteem in countless young people as they grow into productive citizens in all walks of life. The program is considered America's award for the youth of our country.

The Congressional Award Gold Medal has been presented to Patrick for his service to others. He earned the Gold Medal while serving active duty in the United States Air Force. While stationed at Kadena Air Force Base, Japan, Patrick volunteered with the 18th Services Squadron. His work in the squadron as an "Ambassador" allowed Patrick to raise funds for Okinawa's Misata Children's Home. I applaud his hard work and dedication.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the contributions of Patrick Novak who has received the Congressional Award Gold Medal. The outstanding work done by this dedicated young man has been truly influential in not only his community but to the people of Okinawa, Japan and I congratulate him as he is recognized among the Nation's most outstanding young people.

#### RECOGNIZING JUMBO'S RES- TAURANT IN MIAMI, FLORIDA ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 6, 2005*

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise proudly to pay this tribute to Jumbo's Restaurant, a legendary business establishment in Miami's Liberty City community. On Saturday, January 8, 2005, it will celebrate its Golden Anniversary.

This place is more than just a restaurant located along the corridor of Seventh Avenue by 75th St. in Miami. It has been and continues to be the "gathering place" where both celebrities and ordinary folks come and congregate—and partake of the sumptuous meals that this storied establishment serves its faithful clientele. Since its inception 50 years ago, Jumbo's Restaurant has provided the magnificent backdrop of the struggles and triumphs of an inner-city trying to rise from the ashes of

near despondency on one hand and the elusive promise of prosperity on the other, as envisioned by its original owner, Mr. Isadore Flam, who bought it five decades ago.

Amidst the riots, white flight and economic turmoil, its management, cooks and waiters have continued to serve mouth-watering breaded fried shrimp, fried chicken and other familiar Afrocentric and Caribbean menus. The ambiance has virtually remained the same after all those years of socio-economic upturn and downturn. Current owner, 59-year-old Robert "Bobby" Flam, is gutsy enough to hold the line and continues to work hard to keep up the tradition that is uniquely Jumbo's.

To talk about Jumbo's really is to talk about the struggles of Miami's Black community as it faced the challenges of the civil rights era of segregation and disenfranchisement. Its story is as graphic as downright nostalgic, for it defined the character of a people in search of its identity as the promise of equality of opportunity and equal treatment under the law flickered—only to stumble and rise yet again amidst the changing of the times. Even to this very day, it is at Jumbo's that normal folk would forge a community of interest where the dignity of our fellow human beings was animatedly discussed.

Indeed, I am fascinated by the longevity of Jumbo's Restaurant because it tells our story of dogged determination. As we internalize the meaning of its Golden Anniversary this Saturday, we should be enthralled by its perseverance for it is symbolic of our own character of resilience and optimism. This establishment has certainly made us proud, and I want to express the utmost appreciation of a grateful people. Its presence among us evokes yet one more genuine measure of the Flam family's enduring legacy to a community that became the beneficiary of their love and caring.

#### RECOGNIZING JONATHAN KLAMM FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2005

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jonathan Klammer of Liberty, MO, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 376, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jonathan has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the years that Jonathan has been involved with Scouting, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as Patrol Leader on five occasions, Quartermaster on four occasions, Den Chief, Troop Guide, and Instructor. Jonathan has earned 32 merit badges, the 12 Month Camper Award, the 100 Nights Camper Award, the World Conservation Award, the BSA 50 Miller, and the Religious Award: the Ad Altare Dei. He is an Ordeal Member of the Order of the Arrow, and a Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. His Tribal Name is Curious Golden Squirrel, and his blood brother is Cameron Brenton.

Jonathan's Eagle Scout Project consisted of leading a group of Scouts and Scouters to

make improvements at the Earnest Shepherd Youth Center in Liberty.

In addition to these outstanding achievements, I am also proud to recognize Jonathan's work towards my election to the 109th meeting of this most honorable Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in commending Jonathan Klammer for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### HONORING STUART VANMEVEREN

#### HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2005

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the greatest men of jurisprudence in Colorado, Stuart "Stu" VanMeveren, who is stepping down from 32 years as District Attorney for the State's Eight Judicial District.

I have known Stu for many years. Since we have both been very active in the Republican Party, we have come to know each other quite well. I know we think alike on the issues of our time. We reside in neighboring communities located to the north of Denver. Stu's residence in Fort Collins is within my congressional district.

Stu is one of the most capable, effective, popular, and respected elected district attorneys in our State and the Nation. He was first elected district attorney in the Eight Judicial District of Colorado in 1972. Since then he has been re-elected to seven consecutive 4-year terms of office. His eighth term of office concludes on January 11, 2005, because an amendment to the Colorado Constitution has imposed term limits on elected state and local officials.

Stu's peers have recognized his abilities and effectiveness by electing him to local, State, and national office. His local bar association of more than 350 attorneys has elected Stu as their president. His fellow elected district attorneys have twice elected him President of the Colorado District Attorneys Council.

In 1999 Stu was clearly recognized nationally when he was elected President of the National District Attorneys Association. The National District Attorneys Association is the voice of America's prosecutors and has a membership of more than 8,000 attorneys. Stu has served on the board of directors of that organization, a group of the leading prosecutors from each state in our nation, since 1977. Stu has been elected or appointed to many other local, State, and national committees and organizations.

Stu is a very innovative prosecutor. Shortly after he was first elected district attorney in 1972, he formed one of the first full time victim/witness units contained within a prosecutors office. He was also instrumental in forming a very effective youth mentoring program, Larimer County Partners, 25 years ago.

More recently, in 1999, he took the initiative in creating the first Juvenile Drug Court in Colorado and one of the first in the Nation. A successful adult Drug Court followed this and, with his help, Colorado State University has the only Campus Drug Court in the country.

Stu has the innate ability to make effective modifications, realign priorities, and adjust limited resources as the issues involving his office and the criminal justice system change.

Representative Bob Schaffer, my predecessor here in Congress, recently remarked, "As holder of an elected post, Stu's dedication to the Republican principles of public safety and individual liberty have been effectively communicated and represented in a way that has consistently earned him overwhelming bipartisan support each time his name has appeared on a ballot and he is a tireless public servant whose commitment to justice is exemplary."

Stu is a man of high character and integrity. He is a modest man with a very high degree of common sense. He is highly respected throughout his community and the state of Colorado.

It is for these reasons and many more Stu deserves the very highest praise and deep appreciation not only from me and the residents of Colorado, but also from this esteemed body.

#### EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES AND SUPPORT FOR ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS OF EARTHQUAKE AND TSUNAMIS THAT OCCURRED ON DECEMBER 26, 2004, IN SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

SPEECH OF

#### HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 4, 2005

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise with the heaviest of hearts. For the past week, our thoughts and prayers have been with the victims and survivors of the tsunami in the Indian Ocean. From Malaysia to East Africa, the death toll has climbed to a staggering 150,000, with tens of thousands still missing. At least 5 million people are displaced from their homes and many face the risk of diseases such as cholera, typhoid, hepatitis, E. coli, and salmonella in the very near term. It is a natural disaster of Biblical proportions.

As such, the community of nations is coming together to assist the recovery efforts. Governments from around the world have already offered more than \$2 billion in aid to countries hit by the disaster. Private citizens are also doing their part—since the tsunami struck, donations from Americans have poured in to relief organizations, with more to come. Just yesterday, President Bush announced that former Presidents Bush and Clinton would head an effort to encourage more American citizens and businesses to donate to non-government and international organizations working to provide immediate relief and to help with long-term reconstruction in the affected areas.

Our participation tells the world that we understand the gravity of this situation—as Americans and as humanitarians alike. With destruction so complete—so terrifyingly final—in many of these areas, our leadership shows them that we understand, the nature of our role in this relief effort—and that our commitment will be long-term. Just as the nations of the world came to our side after the tragedy of September 11, so, too, is it our moral duty